

# Joint Committee on Slavic Studies

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## APPOINTED BY THE AMERICAN COUNCIL OF LEARNED SOCIETIES AND THE SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH COUNCIL

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Department of Slavic Languages  
Columbia University, New York 27, N.Y.

Subcommittee on the Review of Russian Studies  
C. E. BLACK, Chairman  
JOHN M. THOMPSON, Staff  
Room 44, 90 Nassau Street  
Princeton, New Jersey

ROBERT F. BYRNES, Secretary  
Department of History  
Indiana University  
Bloomington, Indiana

January 10, 1958

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2430 "E" Street, N. W.  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear [redacted]

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The review of Russian studies, concerning which Mr. John Thompson, our staff assistant, visited you last fall, is continuing to move ahead. The first draft of our report on graduate training in the field has been completed and will be forwarded to you shortly.

We are now in the process of examining the research picture in Russian studies. We have had reviews of American research on Russia prepared in ten discipline fields, and these papers will soon be ready for distribution and discussion in draft form.

In order to consider these reviews of research by disciplines, we are planning a conference to be held on January 30-31 at Cambridge in conjunction with the tenth anniversary celebration of the Russian Research Center at Harvard. We would like very much to have a member of your organization, Mr. Paul Borel, who is well known to Professor Byrnes, a member of our committee, attend. I thought it best, however, to extend this informal invitation to Mr. Borel through you. A formal invitation, including the details of the meeting, will follow upon the receipt of your reply. In addition, if there is anyone else in your organization who you think might be particularly interested in attending this meeting, would you please let me know so that we may extend an invitation to him also?

The schedule for the meeting is briefly as follows: On Thursday afternoon, January 30, there will be brief reports by Shulman on the Russian Research Center, by Mosely on an overall appraisal of the American research effort on Russia since World War II, and by Roberts of Columbia on exchanges with the Soviet Union. That evening there will be a formal dinner at the Harvard Club given by the Russian Research Center. On Friday four panel sessions will be held to discuss

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the individual reviews of research in each discipline. Running concurrently in the morning will be sessions on Economics and Geography (an hour for each field), and on Political Science and Philosophy and Religion. In the afternoon, History-Social Relations and Literature-Linguistics-Fine Arts will be covered in concurrent sessions. A reception at five p. m. at the Russian Research Center will close the proceedings.

The reviews of research in the various disciplines will be circulated to the participants in advance and we hope the discussion will focus primarily on what research opportunities and needs face the field in the future. We will send you a complete set of the research reviews in advance of the meeting, and you may have additional copies for your organization, if you wish. We hope to publish all the papers at a later date.

We are also inviting one or two others from government agencies. I hope very much that Mr. Borel and any other individual interested will be able to attend the meeting. I think that the papers and the discussion will be useful and I know that the members of the Joint Committee and the others participating would enjoy meeting and talking with representatives of your organization.

Sincerely yours,

*C. E. Black*  
C. E. Black

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1	Mr. Paul Borel			
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Remarks: also elsewhere in DD/P and DP/Pas

Paul: you seem appropriate.

Will you please coordinate this with Matt Baird's office who arranged for a couple of his people to talk to Mr. Thomas when he was in Washington, and see if Training is interested in having anyone attend this conference.

Then, will you be good enough to have a letter prepared for my signature to Professor Black advising him what representation we will have at the conference.

Thanks.

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